

Clean Version of the Amended Claims

1. A communication system having a telephone network that delivers call waiting signaling upon detecting an incoming call, the communication system comprising:

a remote modem that has a hold mode;

a local modem communicatively coupled to the remote modem via shared access to the telephone network; and

D1 the local modem, after detecting the call waiting signaling, directs the remote modem to enter the hold mode then temporarily relinquishes access to the telephone network;

wherein the remote modem remains in the hold mode for no longer than a first time period, and wherein said first time period is transmitted by the local modem to the remote modem.

19. A modem coupled to a computing system and, via a telephone line, to a telephone network, the modem communicating with the computing system via a protocol stack, the modem comprising:

P2 a processing circuit having a first mode in which communication is exchanged in an established data session and a second mode in which the established data session is temporarily placed on hold; and

the processing circuit exiting said first mode and entering the second mode in response to signals received via the telephone network and manufacturing data and presenting said data to the protocol stack while in said second mode to maintain an appearance of being in said first mode.

Sub F17 32. A communication device for communication with a remote device over a communication channel, said communication device being in communication with a handset, said communication device comprising:

D3 an off-hook detector capable of detecting said handset going off-hook, while said communication device is in communication with said remote device, and further being capable of generating an attention signal in response thereto; and

a transmitter capable of transmitting a hold request to said remote device in response to said attention signal;

wherein said handset is placed off-hook by a user for dialing an outgoing call, and wherein said communication between said devices over said communication channel ceases for a period of time after transmitting said hold request.

JND E17 44. A communication method for use between a first device and a second device in communication over a communication channel, said first device being in communication with a handset, said communication method comprising the steps of:

DK detecting said handset going off-hook;
transmitting a hold request to said second device in response to said handset going off-hook;

ceasing said communication with said second device over said communication channel by said first device for a period of time; and

dialing an outgoing call using said handset.

DS 47. The communication method of claim 44 further comprising the step of providing a new communication channel.

63. A routing method for use in a communication system including first, second and third modems, wherein said first modem and said second modem are in communication over a communication line, said routing method comprising the steps of:

requesting said communication to be placed on hold;

receiving an acknowledgement from said first modem that said communication has been placed on hold for a period of time; and

switching said communication line from said first modem to said third modem, such that after expiration of said period of time, said second modem communicates with said third modem over said communication line.

64. The routing method of claim 63, wherein said step of requesting includes transmitting an attention signal to said first modem.

65. The routing method of claim 63, wherein said step of requesting includes transmitting an attention signal to said second modem.

66. A communication method for use between a first modem and a second modem in communication over a communication channel, said second modem being in communication with an upper layer protocol, said communication method comprising the steps of:

communicating information by said second modem with said first modem;

receiving a hold request by said second modem;

acknowledging said hold request by said second modem;

ceasing said communication with said first modem over said communication channel by said second modem for a hold period;

manufacturing data by said second modem; and

D6 presenting said data by said second modem to said upper layer protocol during
said ceasing step to maintain an appearance of being in said communicating step.

71. A communication method for use between a first modem and a second modem in communication over a communication channel, said first modem being in communication with an upper layer protocol, said communication method comprising the steps of:

pn communicating information by said first modem with said second modem;
transmitting a hold request by said first modem;
receiving an acknowledgment of said hold request from said second modem;
ceasing said communication with said second modem over said communication channel by said first modem for a hold period;
manufacturing data by said first modem; and
presenting said data by said first modem to said upper layer protocol during said ceasing step to maintain an appearance of being in said communicating step.
